

RE: Convoy Update - Jan 28th

From: "Williams, Caroline" <caroline.williams@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>
To: "Blair, Bill" -Personal Info.
Cc: "Astravas, Zita" <zita.astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>
Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2022 04:31:18 +0000

Final RCMP update until tomorrow AM sir. The situation in downtown Ottawa remains mostly unchanged. They have noted the following tweet, which appears to have been taken down now:

- A post on Twitter on 2022-01-28 at 1530hrs was located indicating that "Proud Boys are about to storm Ottawa. We'll let you know if they need backup."

RCMP Update

Latest Data (estimates): 1949+ vehicles and 5,800 + demonstrators (additions/updates to data in red)

- **Currently downtown: 500 vehicles + 270+ demonstrators**
 - 20 semi trucks parked on Wellington St.
 - South convey has arrived in Ottawa, convoy of an estimated 500 vehicles (350 passenger, 150 commercial) (OPP)
 - Approximately 70 people on Parliament Hill and approximately 270 people on Wellington St.
 - Crowds remain peaceful.
 - **Enroute arriving today: 55 vehicles**
 - Owen Sound/Belleville Convey has arrived at Jet Form Park for the night.
 - One more small convoy (4-5 vehicles) is expected to arrive this evening.
 - No other large scale convoys anticipated to arrive this evening, however, individual vehicles are expected to arrive throughout the night.
 - **Arriving tomorrow by 12pm: 627 vehicles + unknown vehicles (US-QC) +5,600 demonstrators**
 - 534 vehicles (West convoy, will depart tomorrow am from Arnprior, ON and arrive in Ottawa at 1200hrs)
 - 300 people waiting for the West convoy in North Bay, ON
 - 850 vehicles, includes those from New Brunswick and Quebec (inclusive of East convoy and SQ data), have arrived in Vankleek Hill, ON and will depart tomorrow morning with an Ottawa arrival time of 1200hrs.
 - A large tractor trailer with numerous construction bags was observed at the Vankleek Hill truck stop.
 - QC-US Border Convoy, details unknown, will be joining East Convoy in Vankleek Hill, ON tomorrow
 - Actions Pacifique expecting 5000 demonstrators to cross from Gatineau side to NCR, planning to park on the Gatineau side and travel by foot into the Ottawa area at 1330hrs, as they will be waiting for members of the group Farfadaa (500-600 people).
 - Unknown number of demonstrators can be expected from the NCR
- Monitoring an event titled 'SLED AND ATV FREEDOM CONVOY 2022 TO OTTAWA' on Facebook. The event is scheduled to begin at 1000hrs on 2022-01-29 at the Cumberland Boat Launch and will progress via the river to Jacques Cartier Park. From there attendees plan to march

- across the bridge to Parliament Hill to join the convey. Current numbers on event page indicate five (5) as 'Going' and fifteen (15) as 'Interested'.
- A flyer distributed by a member of the Owen Sound convoy indicates that a plane with a banner is expected to fly over the downtown core for 3 hours on 2022-01-29. According to the flyer, the plane will be "circling the City of Ottawa traversing the City of Ottawa in a Pattern and Circling the Capital Hill at a distance of .3km".
 - PPC Leader Maxim BERNIER has announced on his social media account that he will be in Ottawa to support the convoy. BERNIER will be speaking at Confederation Park on 2022-01-29 at 1500hrs and on Parliament Hill on 2022-01-30 at 1200hrs.
 - A post on Twitter on 2022-01-28 at 1530hrs was located indicating that "Proud Boys are about to storm Ottawa. We'll let you know if they need backup."
 - Another Twitter posts was located indicating that "An internal document acquired by The Counter Signal reveals emergency procedures to be taken as the convoy arrives in Ottawa, including what to do if anti-mandate protestors were to storm Parliament and occupy the government". Twitter post was dated 2022-01-28 at 1233hrs.

From: Williams, Caroline

Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 8:32 PM

To: Personal Info. [REDACTED] Personal Info. [REDACTED]

Cc: Astravas, Zita <Zita.Astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Convoy Update - Jan 28th

Sir-

RCMP's reported a further increase in vehicles in the downtown area, with the south convoy now mostly arrived. There are 500 vehicles total (up from 353 last hour), with 20 semi-trucks parked on Wellington (up from 3).

The remaining two convoys of over 100+ size, West and South, are still expected to arrive in Ottawa at noon tomorrow.

Latest Data (estimates): 1914+ vehicles and 5,200+ demonstrators (additions/updates to data in red)

- **Currently downtown: 500 vehicles + 270+ demonstrators**
 - 20 semi trucks parked on Wellington St.
 - South convey has arrived in Ottawa, convoy of an estimated 500 vehicles (350 passenger, 150 commercial) (OPP)
 - Approximately 70 people on Parliament Hill and approximately 270 people on Wellington St.
 - Crowds remain peaceful
- **Enroute arriving today: 20-30 vehicles**
 - Owen Sound/Belleville Convey approaching Ottawa, approximately 20-30 vehicles. Tractor trailer with front loader spotted in this convoy.
- **Arriving tomorrow by 12pm: 627 vehicles + unknown vehicles (US-QC) +5,000 demonstrators (AP)**
 - 534 vehicles (West convoy, will depart tomorrow am from Arnprior, ON and arrive in Ottawa at 1200hrs)
 - 300 people waiting for the West convoy in North Bay, ON
 - 850 vehicles, includes those from New Brunswick and Quebec (inclusive of East convoy and SQ data), have arrived in Vankleek Hill, ON and will depart tomorrow morning with an Ottawa arrival time of 1200hrs.
 - A large tractor trailer with numerous construction bags was observed at the Vankleek Hill truck stop.

- QC-US Border Convoy, details unknown, will be joining East Convoy in Vankleek Hill, ON tomorrow
- Actions Pacifique expecting 5000 demonstrators to cross from Gatineau side to NCR, planning to park on the Gatineau side and travel by foot into the Ottawa area at 1115hrs.
- Unknown number of demonstrators can be expected from the NCR

Communications:

- Updated message for the RCMP Employee Emergency Information Line (EEL) has been approved by National Division and National Headquarters and has been submitted to NOC.
- National Division communications has responded to three (3) media calls today (Le Droit, 2 x CBC).
- OPS are doing a few one on one media interviews this evening. Acting Deputy Chief Trish Ferguson was interviewed on CTV live at 1802hrs and Chief Peter Sloly was interviewed on CBC TV Power and Politics Live at 1820pm).

From: Williams, Caroline

Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 7:37 PM

To: Personal Info.

Cc: Astravas, Zita <Zita.Astravas@gpc-cpr.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Convoy Update - Jan 28th

Good evening sir,

Just a few updates for you from tonight's 6:30PM call. Below the call summary is an update from the RCMP – PCO flagged in the call that vehicles and demonstrators might be remaining downtown overnight.

Call:

Mention from PCO at the top that 1PM tomorrow is being held for another ministerial briefing, if it is determined that one should happen.

High level update of the day from Mike MacDonald:

- Things are generally looking good so far. RCMP is reporting no change to the level of threat.
- Some bridges to Gatineau and various road closures are starting to happen, as was planned.
- Buildings are now locking their doors downtown.
- Getting numbers on participants remain difficult as people continue to jump on and off the convoy.
- PCO has had a lot of direct interactions with social media networks like Facebook, TikTok, Reddit, and others who have been reaching out to discuss how they're removing hateful/threatening content on their platforms.
- CBSA continues to have no flags when it comes to border traffic, continue to monitor. They remain aware of the possibility of 'sit-in's at some land ports of entry on the Canadian side.

Patrick noted that an RFA will likely be coming in for the Ottawa Police to make use of a CAF parking lot, no additional resources being requested beyond use of the space.

RCMP UPDATE

Event Overview:

Latest Data (estimates): 2,685+ vehicles and 5,200+ demonstrators (additions/updates to data in red)

- **Currently downtown: 353 vehicles + 200+ demonstrators**
 - 3 semi trucks parked on Wellington St.
 - 350 vehicles from convoy (PPS)
 - 200 Parliament Hill, crowds on Wellington St. and Queen St.

- Protestors setting up camp in Confederation Park
- Truck parked on Queen Street with ATV in cab (RCMP).
- OPS directing traffic on Elgin and Queen St. Limiting the number of trucks on O'Connor and Metcalfe.
- Convoy vehicles traveling down Richmond Rd. towards Sir John A. MacDonald Parkway.
- MacDonald Cartier Bridge is being closed (one lane in each direction) due to weight limitations.
- **Enroute arriving today: 1705 vehicles**
 - 150 vehicles (OPP) from 416 convoy
 - 1205 vehicles at various locations on Hwy 20 (SQ)
 - Project Hendon (OPP) Sit Rep includes:
 - reports of what police believe may be a large air compressor being transported on a flat bed truck in the convoy;
 - OS research has identified a You Tube channel that appears to be live streaming police communications regarding the location and movement of the convoys, specifically from OPP radio communications;
 - Individuals attending the Ottawa protest may attend one or more hospitals in the Ottawa area;
 - OS captured an image of a tractor trailer carrying a pick up truck and a smaller piece of equipment (possibly a construction light tower), a flat bed truck carrying another pick up truck and portable toilets; as well as what might be an excavator on the back of another truck. A large boat and a large ATV are also being hauled in the convoy.
- **Arriving tomorrow by 12pm: 627 vehicles + unknown vehicles (US-QC) +5,000 demonstrators (AP)**
 - 534 vehicles (West convoy, will depart tomorrow am from Arnprior, ON)
 - 300 people waiting for the West convoy in North Bay, ON
 - 63 vehicles (East convoy, departing tomorrow from Vankleek Hill, ON
 - 20-30 vehicles near Belleville, ON, which includes a tractor with a front end loader.
 - QC-US Border Convoy, details unknown, will be joining East Convoy in Vankleek Hill, ON tomorrow
 - Actions Pacifique expecting 5000 demonstrators to cross from Gatineau side to NCR, planning to park on the Gatineau side and travel by foot into the Ottawa area at 1115hrs.
 - Unknown number of demonstrators can be expected from the NCR

Operational Information:

- At 1512hrs, PPS reported a drone operator on the grounds of Parliament Hill with drone flying over Wellington St.
- PPS received an application for a permit in support of a riser that will be installed for 2 days. Application was submitted by organizer of 'Adopt a Trucker' fundraiser.
- Speakers have been set up in front of Queen's Gate.
- Overall mood in the downtown core is peaceful, music is playing and cars/crowds are supporting the convoys as they pass.
- GOC sent out an email to the CSO/DCSO community advising that they have received confirmation surrounding protestors entering office buildings in the downtown core and allegedly causing damage. As a result, Minto Place, is going into weekend lockdown mode, effectively immediately.

Communications:

- National Division Communications is working with National Headquarters Communications to update message for the RCMP Employee Emergency Information Line (EIL).
- Event contains to garner a significant amount of media interest and coverage.

From: Williams, Caroline

Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 4:42 PM

To: Personal Info.

Cc: Astravas, Zita <Zita.Astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Convoy Update - Jan 28th

Hi sir -

GOC has confirmed that protesters have entered at least one office building in downtown Ottawa and are allegedly causing damage. The building in question, 180 Kent St (Minto Place), has a large public food court and common area and is on the intended route. As a result, Minto Place is going into weekend lockdown mode (All entrance doors will be locked) effective immediately.

GOC is still working to learn more about the extent and severity of the damage, will update us if they hear more.

-Caroline

From: Williams, Caroline

Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 4:04 PM

To: 'Williams, Caroline' <Caroline.Williams@qpc-cpr.gc.ca> Personal Info.

Cc: Astravas, Zita <Zita.Astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Convoy Update - Jan 28th

Latest sitrep from the RCMP – vehicles are starting to arrive in significant numbers downtown.

Latest Data (estimates): 2,222+ vehicles and 5,200+ demonstrators

- **Currently downtown: 353 vehicles + 200 demonstrators**
 - 3 semi trucks parked on Wellington St.
 - 350 vehicles from convoy (PPS)
 - 200 demonstrators (150 on Wellington St., 50 on PH)
 - Protestors setting up camp in Confederation Park
 - **Enroute arriving today: 1385 vehicles**
 - 150 vehicles (OPP) from 416 convoy
 - 1185 vehicles at various locations on Hwy 20 (SQ)
 - **Arriving tomorrow by 12pm: 534 vehicles + unknown vehicles (US-QC) +5,000 demonstrators (AP)**
 - 471 vehicles (West convoy, will depart tomorrow am from Amprior, ON)
 - 300 people waiting for the West convoy in North Bay, ON
 - 63 vehicles (East convoy, departing tomorrow from Vankleek Hill, ON)
 - QC-US Border Convoy, details unknown, will be joining East Convoy in Vankleek Hill, ON tomorrow
 - Actions Pacifique expecting 5000 demonstrators to cross from Gatineau side to NCR, planning to park on the Gatineau side and travel by foot into the Ottawa area at 1115hrs.
 - Unknown number of demonstrators can be expected from the NCR
- OPS managing rolling road closures in the downtown core to facilitate convoy movement.
 - SPVG have advised that the Alexandria Bridge will be closed as of 1800 hrs on 2022-01-28.
 - Go Fund Me page currently sits at over \$7.3M

- Open Source posts indicating that participants should protest in front of the US Embassy, given the US has also introduced a vaccine mandate for truckers wishing to cross the Canada-US border. No detailed plan or direct threats related to US Embassy at this time.

From: Williams, Caroline <Caroline.Williams@gpc-cpr.gc.ca>

Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 12:16 PM

To: Personal Info. [REDACTED]

Cc: Astravas, Zita <Zita.Astravas@gpc-cpr.gc.ca>

Subject: GOC Convoy Update - midday, Jan 28th

The latest from GOC is below sir:

New information in bold, as of 12:00 EDT.

The following relates to a planned peaceful demonstration in Ottawa on 28-29 Jan. The Government Operations Centre (GOC) is monitoring the potential to affect Critical Infrastructure (CI) including Federal assets.

For information on planned traffic routes, please refer to the following webmap: [Link to webmap](#)

For near-real time updates on the city of Ottawa road closures and traffic updates, please refer to [Traffic.Ottawa.ca](#) and updates on @Ottawa_Traffic and @Ottawa_Circule.

Overview:

- Effective 15 Jan, COVID-19 vaccination became mandatory for all truckers entering Canada from the United States to avoid a two-week quarantine and a negative COVID-19 test before arrival.
- Similarly, beginning on 22 Jan, U.S. DHS began requiring non-U.S. individuals seeking to enter the United States via land ports of entry and ferry terminals at the U.S.- Mexico and U.S.- Canada borders to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and provide related proof of vaccination, as COVID-19 cases continue to rise nationwide. These new restrictions will apply to non-U.S. individuals who are traveling for both essential and non-essential reasons. They will not apply to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents, or U.S. nationals.”
[Link](#)

Key Points:

- A number of Canadian truckers have planned a convoy with hopes of ending the mandatory vaccine mandate for truckers.
- The convoys are aiming to arrive in downtown Ottawa by noon on 29 Jan, however some are anticipated to arrive as early as 28 Jan.
- There are three main convoys (East, South and West) and some sub-convoys heading to Ottawa. **Total vehicles in convoys: 551**
- Contacts for routes and timelines can be found on the organization’s website: [Link](#)
 - Eastern Convoy departed PEI on 27 Jan with 76 vehicles crossing the Confederation Bridge heading to Auluc, NB. to meet up with other Eastern convoys.
 - Southern convoy, **currently 70 vehicles**: The Windsor and Sarnia Convoys merged into a single convoy before passing through London and the GTA attracting large groups of supporters roadside on its way to Kingston for the night. Convoy will depart for Ottawa on 28 Jan. Extensive traffic delays have been reported throughout the day along the route with the Convoy currently on HWY401. [Link](#)
 - **A "Freedom Convoy" of truckers and supporters departed Kingston, ON shortly after 08:30 EDT.** [Link](#)
 - The Western Convoy, **currently 471 vehicles**: Originating from BC, the convoy was traveling between Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie yesterday. [Link](#)
 - **Sub convoys : Hearst convoy currently has 10 vehicles.**
 - An estimate of 1000-2000 demonstrators are meeting at the Alexandria Bridge on the Quebec side and plan to cross over to Ottawa at 11:15 on Saturday.

- On 28 Jan, truckers will be meeting at 3 Ports Of Entries (POE) (Saint-Theophile, Stanstead, and Saint-Bernard-de-Lacolle), and will drive on Highway 40 until Vankleek Hill ,ON, and will move onward to Ottawa on 29 Jan.
- There are 500 trucks confirmed in the state of Maine as participating on the US side of the border and 300 trucks confirmed in NB to be participating on the highway 95, along with several personal vehicles. Commercial trucks are expected to block highway 95 while passenger vehicles are expected to block highway 555 from Beardsley Road. Transport trucks and individuals will arrive in Ottawa between 28-29 Jan.
- Additional demonstrations being planned across Canada.
 - “Slow roll” convoys at provincial and Canada/U.S. border crossing are being planned over the weekend.[Link](#)
 - In AB, those who cannot go to Ottawa are being encouraged to block the Coutts border, most likely on 28-29 Jan, and not move until the demands in Ottawa are met. (Source: comments on the Freedom Convoy 2020 Facebook page.)
 - In PEI, a Convoy plans to begin a slow roll demonstration at 13:00 EST on 29 Jan from the By-Pass and University Ave intersection down University Ave to the Cenotaph before dispersing.
 - NB is anticipating the following CI disruptions: Blockade of Woodstock NB and Houlton ME International Port of Entry, Blockade of Highway 2 at NB/NS border, Disruption/Traffic slowdown of Edmundston NB and Madawaska ME International Port of Entry, Disruption/Traffic slowdown of Perth Andover NB and Fort Fairfield ME international port of entry, Disruption/Traffic slowdown of highway 2 at NB/Quebec border.
 - **In solidarity of the main convoy, demonstrations may take place at Federal buildings across Canada : Victoria, Legislative Assembly, Vancouver, Canada Place, Calgary, Prince Island Park, Edmonton, Legislature building, Regina, Legislative building, Winnipeg, The Forks, Toronto, Union Station, Montreal, Place des arts, Moncton, Riverfront Park, St John's, Harbourside Park.**
- Canadian Truck Alliance (CTA) and the Atlantic Canadian Trucking Association do not support any protests on public roadways, highways, and bridges.
- According to Open Sources, Freedom Convoy 2022, has raised over \$**6.2** million in fundraising in support of their cause. [Link](#)
- As part of the protest, Canada Unity plans to present a request (MOU) to the Governor General and Senate for the removal of various COVID19 related Public Health Order restrictions.
- Some supporters suggested they would not leave Ottawa until vaccine mandates for public servants, Canadian travelers and cross-border truckers are lifted.
- An event Organizer stated the plan is to “gridlock the city, while leaving room for traffic to businesses and emergency vehicles to get through” while holding events with speakers at a yet to be disclosed stage location [Link](#)
- OPP has said that it is working with those involved to minimize the impact to the public and ensure public safety. [Link](#)
- Ottawa police now preparing for multiple groups coming to Ottawa with planning underway for a range of risks including counter-demonstrations, blocking of intersections, interfering with critical infrastructure, and unlawful activity.
- Freedom Convoy 2022 organizer says the group won't tolerate extremists and instructed participants "If you see participants along the way that are misbehaving, acting aggressively

in any way or inciting any type of violence or hatred, please take down the truck number and their license plate number so that we can forward that to the police," in response to fringe groups/people calling for destructive action. [Link](#)

- A joint communication strategy is being developed by the City of Ottawa to ensure the public is informed of traffic and transit plans throughout the demonstration.
- Ottawa police are planning for around 1,000 to 2,000 vehicles, while also noting the Freedom Convoy has so far been peaceful and cooperative with police and city officials in other jurisdictions.
 - Convoy arriving from the west on the 417 will be directed to Sir John A MacDonald Parkway from the Pinecrest exit. Following this, Kent and Metcalfe exits will be used with vehicles directed to O'Connor as well. Demonstrators heading to 24 Sussex will be directed to take the Montreal exit to George Etienne parkway.
 - The convoy arriving from the east on the 417 will have access to the George Etienne parkway via aviation parkway. They will then continue on to King Edward then Rideau to access the downtown core.
 - Wellington will be closed between Metcalf and Lion with 3 lanes dedicated to the demonstration and the 4th lane for emergency vehicles.
 - Near Vanier, old Jetform park will be used to park trucks and passenger vehicles with cabs and LRT available for demonstrators to get downtown.
 - The trucks will be parked in the curb lane or at staging areas.
 - The following road closures in the NCR were in place as of 11:00 EDT:
 - **All lanes are closed at the Highway 417 eastbound on-ramp at Richmond /Bayshore Drive;**
 - **Wellington westbound is reduced to one lane between Elgin and O'Connor;**
 - **The right lane and shoulder are closed at the Highway 417 eastbound on-ramp at Highway 416;**
 - **Elgin is reduced to two lanes in each direction between Wellington and Laurier due to preparations for the demonstration, and**
 - **Laurier is reduced to 1 lane in each direction between Elgin and Nicholas due to preparations for demonstration.**
 - Ottawa Public Health closed two vaccination clinics due to the Freedom Convoy Link

Assessment: (derived from information available on open sources) for the 28-29 Jan Demonstration in Ottawa:

- Ottawa police assessment determines no need for people to stay home or for businesses to close due to the Convoy activities. They noted other elements including counter-protesters are harder to predict. [Link](#)
- OPP is advising motorists to avoid travel on Hwy417 and Hwy416 in the Ottawa for Friday afternoon and Saturday due to major delays associated with the truck Convoy. [Link](#)
- Ottawa Police, the OPP and the RCMP as well as the City of Ottawa, are aware of and are coordinating a response to the progress of the various convoys.
- Since most government employees are working remotely, the disruption to government activities is expected to be minor.
- INTERSECT is indicating that this will be a significant and extremely fluid event that could go on for a prolonged period.
- Organizers of the protest have expressed the intent for a peaceful event, which is consistent with what has been seen in other areas where the convoy has stopped so far.

Sent from my iPhone